

First Tuesday Nevada Libraries Check-In

from

Nevada State Library, Archives and Public Records

February 2, 2021, 10 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Notes

Attending: JoVon Sotak, Sulin Jones, Norma Fowler, Bruce Douglass, NSLAPR; Cyndi O, Nevada Library CoOp; Kim Diehm, Boulder City; Tod Colegrove, Carson City; Amy Dodson, Douglas County; Joy Gunn, Marcie Smedley, Henderson; Jessica Anderson, Humboldt County; Garrett Dacay, North Las Vegas; Alysha Wogee, Shanna Gibbons, Susan Wonderly, Pahrump; Kathie Brinkerhoff, Pershing County; Jeanne Bleecker, Smoky Valley; Jeff Scott, Joan Dalusung, Washoe County; Lori Romero, White Pine County; Eric Walsh, GBC; Maggie Farrell, UNLV/SCLL; Ananda Campbell, Carson City High School/SCLL; Holly Esposito, Washoe County School District/SCLL; Nancy Cummings-Schmidt, SCLL.



WHAT PEOPLE ARE THINKING RIGHT NOW



Strengths:

- Libraries find innovative ways to serve their communities and are doing so even if physical buildings are closed or have limited access.
- Nevada libraries are receiving grants and recognition at the national level.



Struggles:

- Libraries are trying to stay abreast of changing conditions and adapt as needed.
- Libraries continue to work to keep staff safe while awaiting vaccines for staff.



Opportunities

- Libraries are embracing virtual programming and exploring new programs to offer.



Trends

- Libraries continue to provide digital services and devices to increase access for families and individuals in the community.
- Libraries continue to adapt their services to meet the current situation in their own communities; for example, offering curbside, drivethrough, limited browsing, exterior lockers and adapting as conditions change.

NSLAPR Updates- JoVon Sotak, Interim Administrator

- **NSLAPR Administrator Search**: The search for a permanent NSLAPR Administrator continues with applications received from around the country. The position was posted through various organizations and your help is requested in circulating the job posting with other organizations. The selection will be made by Department of Administration Director Laura Freed, and the Administrator will serve at the pleasure of the Governor. There have been requests from the

library community to be involved in the hiring process, and a suggestion has been given to Director Freed to have a virtual public panel to interview the final candidates. Please email jsotak@admin.nv.gov with any input regarding the NSLAPR administrator recruitment for Director Freed to consider.

- **2021 State Legislative Session (JoVon Sotak, Joan Dalusung, Tod Colegrove):** The Legislative Session is meeting in person but comments and testimonies will be done virtually.

BDRs related to libraries are being tracked and include:

- BDR 167 – sponsored by Shannon Billbrary-Axelrod, revising provisions governing libraries; text of bill not available
- BDR 34-76 (SB 126) – would set minimum school library requirements for Clark County and Washoe County school districts
- BDR 34- 297 (SB 76) – proposes that public libraries provide library cards to students and that schools provide sufficient information to the public libraries for library card registration

Library Legislative Day will be Thursday, March 4, which coincides with NV Reading Week. In the past, Leg Day was during National Library Week, but it was felt that it should be held earlier in the process.

On the Federal level, the Building America's Libraries Act has been reintroduced by Senator Jack Reed, and libraries are encouraged to contact their legislators in support. The legislation proposes \$5 billion for library construction with a minimum of \$10 million per state.

- **2021 Virtual Summer Reading Program Workshop (Bruce Douglass):** The 2021 Virtual Summer Reading Program (SRP) Workshop was held on January 13-14, 2021. The theme for this year is "Tails and Tales". The workshop had a registration of 85 with an average attendance of 50. The 3- hour workshops were also recorded and posted on the State Library's YouTube channel. Day 1 included presenters from the Nevada Department of Wildlife, World Book, Beanstack, and a panel on school and library partnerships. It concluded with Maria Klesta and Jana Wiersma, Carson City Library, sharing a presentation on how to make "Take Home Kits." Day 2 featured Great Basin National Park, Diversity and Inclusion, Book Inclusion, and Terri Farley, author and wild horse advocate. Jeslyn MacDiarmid, Churchill County Library, shared a program titled "Actual Size". NSLAPR staff shared new developments on CSLP order forms, CSLP social media kit, information on the School Library Journal calendar, and the SRP Padlet.

Recordings can be found at:

- Day 1 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tNg1e-Jd03I&t=704s>
- Day 2 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yTa02TOlwYE&t=42s>
- Padlet link: <https://padlet.com/nslapr/2021SRP>

- **Statewide Updates: COVID19 Vaccine Lanes:** The COVID19 vaccination playbook https://nvhealthresponse.nv.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/NEVADA-COVID-19-VACCINE-PLAYBOOK-V3-BRIEF_011121.pdf is revised often and contains the most up-to-date information. The document has the latest lanes for the prioritization for inoculation. For library staff, prioritization is based on two criteria: (1) if employees are in unavoidable contact with those who COVID19 and (2) if employees have prolonged frontline contact. Additional qualifiers include: 1) is there a

technical skill that can't be easily replaced and 2) is the position necessary to the health and safety of the public's well-being?

- Tod Colegrove commented that a resolution was adopted at the ALA-Midwinter Meeting that endorsed that library workers be recognized as 1-b rather than 1-c based on CDC guidelines and are frontline workers who need to be protected.

<http://www.ala.org/aboutala/sites/ala.org/aboutala/files/content/ALA%20CD%2045%20Resolution%20to%20Classify%20Library%20Workers%20as%201b%20Workers%20to%20be%20Listed%20as%20a%20Priority%20W>

Maggie Farrell added that UNLV administration declared UNLV onsite library workers as a priority. Two-thirds of the staff have received the first vaccine shot and the remaining third are remote workers. This information could help change the prioritization for other librarians.

- Library News: Smoky Valley and Humboldt County
- Jeanne Bleecker – The Smoky Valley Library recently received a 4-star library ranking from *Library Journal*. The award is based on statistics collected on the annual Public Library Survey including elements such as budget, website visits, program attendance, and per capita spending. Jeanne stated that their success is due to the library's underlying philosophy that the patrons come first; their efforts to see and offer additional services (i.e. notary, faxing, video collection, school materials, pre-school daycare, balloons, proctoring services, poster printing, photo printing, banner making) to the community that are not easy to obtain because of the remoteness of the area; and their work on displays and layout of the library.
- Jessica Anderson - Humboldt County's McDermitt Library Branch was awarded a \$3,000 grant from ALA's "Libraries Transforming Communities" program. A portion of the fund will be used to teach staff how to lead community discussions using virtual platforms. The rest of the fund will be used to instruct staff and the community in building websites, creating videos for the youth, preservation of the area's cultural history using digital technology and placing it online to share with the world.

The second round of this competitive grant is beginning and 450 grants to small or rural libraries (population under 25,000) are available. Must have an ALA or ARSL membership.

- **Library Check-In**

Carson City Library (Tod Colegrove): Exterior book lockers have been installed and were well received from the public. There is currently a glitch but once that is resolved, the service will be impressive. Think Bionics Camp is about to begin with funding from an LSTA grant. As NLA President, he added that NLA is looking forward to advocating on behalf of Nevada's libraries during the legislation session.

Henderson Libraries (Marcie Smedley): Using CARES Act funding, the library has received 75 Chromebooks which have been paired with hotspots. They are already being placed on hold and checked out by the public using curbside service. The service is being publicized through local press outlets, and the library is looking forward to providing digital access for the community. Sulin Jones, NSLAPR, added that Chromebooks have been on backorder for a long time and it's good to see someone finally receiving them.

Washoe County Library (Jeff Scott): Drive-through service is back up and running. A third of our staff is helping the Health District with COVID tracing. Another third is getting the physical spaces ready to reop. Almost all branches will be open for pickup and virtual services after February 8th, 2021. The traffic at the branches with drive-through service has been incredible with long waiting lines of cars, and they have been doing about 1,000 checkouts in a four-hour period.

Humboldt County Library (Jessica Anderson): The library received a free Cricut with Penworthy points and will be using it to create materials for our grab and go programming.

North Las Vegas (Garrett Dacay): The libraries are providing curbside service and are still closed to the public. Half the staff is helping with the CARES vaccination program for our city. So far, they have scheduled 14,000 appointments, and citywide 10,000 doses have been administered. The city and the library have been getting a lot of praise for the efficiency of the vaccination program. Virtual programming is continuing, mainly using Facebook, and the City is allowing us to use their YouTube Channel.

UNLV (Maggie Farrell): Classes started January 19th, 2021 with the libraries open with reduced hours. 80 percent of courses are online which means we are doing a lot of virtual reference instruction. The library is open primarily to NSHE students, faculty, and staff, but exceptions are made for the general public if they have research needs that aren't met by the public libraries. The library is down 14 positions due to budget cuts and hiring freeze.

Pahrump (Shanna Gibbons): The tax preparation volunteers are returning this year, and the public is happy about that. Curbside service is offered once a week. The 21st year at this location was celebrated recently.

Nancy Cummings-Schmidt (SCLL): This year's theme for Nevada Reads is related to environmental stewardship, family and nature literacy. Two memoirs were selected as the 2021 titles - *World of Wonders: In Praise of Fireflies, Whale Sharks, and other Astonishments* by Aimee Nezhukumatathil and *Miracle Country: a Memoir* by Kendra Atleework. The selectors feel that these titles are accessible to a wide range of readers and ages and have a wide range of programming possibilities. If you have any ideas for programming, please contact Kathleen Kuo (kkuo@nevadahumanities.org); the press release can be found at <https://www.nevadahumanities.org/press-room>

Nevada Library CoOp (Cyndi O): (in Chat) CoOp is putting the finishing touches on the FY22 budget and coordinating with the NV Humanities Council and OverDrive about another simultaneous-use virtual book club for the NV Reads 2021 titles.

Douglas County Library (Amy Dodson): The library has been doing curbside since May and limited browsing hours since June. Due to increase in COVID19 cases in December, the browsing hours were temporarily closed. In response to feedback, the Library Board is meeting Thursday to discuss and make a decision about reopening for browsing. Virtual programs are popular, and the staff is using the Discord platform for virtual meetings of the teen writing group.

Boulder City Library (Kim Diehm): Virtual programs are continuing, and the winter reading program is still ongoing through February. Cooking classes, book clubs, mindfulness classes, and storytimes are being done virtually with lots of positive feedback. Curbside service is available, and the phones ringing off the hook to make pickup appointments. There have been requests to reopen computer access, and it is being considered.

Sulin Jones, NSLAPR: In response to Kim's comments, Sulin shared a relevant link regarding computers and space - <https://medium.com/ditto-press/designing-for-the-future-the-post-pandemic-library-1943016d2e55>